

*cypX*.

Claim 3 (original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one gene of the second nucleic acid sequence is *yvmC*.

Claim 4 (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the biological substance encoded by the first nucleic acid sequence is a biopolymer.

Claims 5-8 cancelled.

Claim 9 (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the biological substance encoded by the first nucleic acid sequence is a metabolite.

Claim 10 cancelled.

Claim 11 cancelled.

Claim 12 (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the *Bacillus* cell is a *Bacillus alkalophilus*, *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*, *Bacillus brevis*, *Bacillus circulans*, *Bacillus clausii*, *Bacillus coagulans*, *Bacillus firmus*, *Bacillus lautus*, *Bacillus lentus*, *Bacillus licheniformis*, *Bacillus megaterium*, *Bacillus pumilus*, *Bacillus stearothermophilus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, or *Bacillus thuringiensis* cell.

Claims 13-14 cancelled.

Claim 15 (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the mutant cell produces at least about 25% less of the red pigment compared to the parent *Bacillus* cell when cultured under identical conditions.

Claims 16-19 cancelled.

Claim 20 (original) A mutant of a parent *Bacillus* cell, comprising a first nucleic acid sequence directing synthesis of a heterologous biological substance and a second nucleic acid sequence comprising a

modification of at least one of the genes *cypX* and *yvmC*, which are involved in the production of a red pigment, wherein the mutant cell is deficient in the production of the red pigment compared to the parent *Bacillus* cell when cultivated under the same conditions.

Claim 21 (original) The mutant cell of claim 20, wherein at least one gene of the second nucleic acid sequence is *cypX*.

Claim 22 (original) The mutant cell of claim 20, wherein at least one gene of the second nucleic acid sequence is *yvmC*.

Claim 23 (original) The mutant cell of claim 20, wherein the biological substance encoded by the first nucleic acid sequence is a biopolymer.

Claims 24-27 cancelled.

Claim 28 (original) The mutant cell of claim 20, wherein the biological substance encoded by the first nucleic acid sequence is a metabolite.

Claims 29-30 cancelled.

Claim 31 (original) The mutant cell of claim 20, wherein the *Bacillus* cell is a *Bacillus alkalophilus*, *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*, *Bacillus brevis*, *Bacillus circulans*, *Bacillus clausii*, *Bacillus coagulans*, *Bacillus firmus*, *Bacillus lautus*, *Bacillus lentus*, *Bacillus licheniformis*, *Bacillus megaterium*, *Bacillus pumilus*, *Bacillus stearothermophilus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, or *Bacillus thuringiensis* cell.

Claims 32-33 cancelled.

Claim 34 (original) The mutant cell of claim 20, which produces at least about 25% less of the red pigment compared to the parent *Bacillus* cell when cultured under identical conditions.

Claims 35-38 cancelled.

Claim 39 (original) A method of obtaining a mutant of a parent *Bacillus* cell, comprising:

(a) introducing into the parent *Bacillus* cell a first nucleic acid sequence directing synthesis of a heterologous biological substance and a second nucleic acid sequence comprising a modification of at least one of the genes *cypX* and *yvmC*, which are involved in the production of a red pigment; and

(b) identifying the mutant cell from step (a) comprising the modified nucleic acid sequence, wherein the mutant cell is deficient in the production of the red pigment compared to the parent *Bacillus* cell when cultivated under the same conditions.

Claim 40 (original) The method of claim 39, wherein at least one gene of the second nucleic acid sequence is *cypX*.

Claim 41 (original) The method of claim 39, wherein at least one gene of the second nucleic acid sequence is *yvmC*.

Claim 42 (original) The method of claim 39, wherein the biological substance encoded by the first nucleic acid sequence is a biopolymer.

Claims 43-46 cancelled.

Claim 47 (original) The method of claim 39, wherein the biological substance encoded by the first nucleic acid sequence is a metabolite.

Claims 48-49 cancelled.

Claim 50 (original) The method of claim 39, wherein the *Bacillus* cell is a *Bacillus alkalophilus*, *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*, *Bacillus brevis*, *Bacillus circulans*, *Bacillus clausii*, *Bacillus coagulans*, *Bacillus firmus*, *Bacillus lautus*, *Bacillus lentus*, *Bacillus licheniformis*, *Bacillus megaterium*, *Bacillus pumilus*, *Bacillus stearothermophilus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, or *Bacillus thuringiensis* cell.